National Weather Service
Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena

October 1997

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm

WISCONSIN, Southeast

WIZ051-063-065>066-068 Fond Du Lac - Dane - Waukesha - Milwaukee - Green

03 1500CST 0 0 Record Heat
08 1600CST

Record, or near record heat was widespread across southcentral and southeast Wisconsin from October 3rd through October 8th. Maximum temperatures peaked in the lower to mid 80s on the 3rd, 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th. Overnight minimums on the 7th and 8th were in the lower to mid 60s... when some new record high minimums were established. The daily average temperatures for the 7th and 8th were 20 to 25 degrees above normal! During this period of unseasonably warm weather, southwest to west winds frequently gusted to 20 to 30 mph, or higher. Milwaukee had a peak gust on the 5th of 41 mph (36 kts), while Madison recorded a peak gust of 32 mph (27 kts) on the 8th.

On the 3rd... Milwaukee (Milwaukee Co) tied its old record max of 84 set in 1953, Madison (Dane Co) tied its record max of 85 set in 1976, and Fond du Lac tied it record max set in 1921. On the 5th, Milwaukee (Milwaukee Co) tied its record max of 87 set in 1922, and Fond du Lac's (Fond du Lac Co) high of 83 broke the old record of 82 set in 1947. Another secondary observation point near Fond du Lac recorded 85 on the 5th. On the 6th, recorded maximum temperatures fell short of record highs by 1 to 3 degrees.

On the 7th, Madison's high of 85 broke the old record of 84 set back in 1947, and it's minimum of 63 was a new record high minimum (old one was 59 in 1984). Waukesha's (Waukesha Co) high of 86 on the 7th broke its old record of 85 set in 1993. Monroe (Green Co) also set a new record high on the 7th with an 85 degree reading. On the 8th, Madison's high of 83 tied the old record set in 1949, while its minimum of 65 tied the old record high minimum set in 1949. There is no doubt that other new record maximums and record high minimums were set across southcentral and southeast Wisconsin during the period of October 3-8, but the data wasn't available for this report.

WIZ066 Milwaukee

12 0600CST 0 0 Record Heat

Unseasonably warm weather returned to the Milwaukee metro area during the overnight hours ending on the morning of the 12th. Milwaukee's overnight low of 61 was a new record high minimum reading.

WIZ062>063 Iowa - Dane

26 1000CST 0 0 Heavy Snow
1700CST

The first significant snowfall of the season dropped up to 7 inches of heavy, wet snow across southcentral Wisconsin. This storm was one of the earliest on record for such deep accumulations in southcentral Wisconsin. The greatest accumulations were 7 inches on the top of Blue Mounds (Iowa Co) in the State Park (1716 feet MSL), and 6 inches in the communities of Mt. Horeb and Blue Mounds in western Dane county. Elsewhere, snow amounts of 3 to 5 inches were reported in Lafayette, Sauk, Green, Columbia, Dodge, Green Lake, and Fond du Lac counties. Madison set a new October 26th daily snowfall record, and an October monthly snowfall record with a 3.8 inch total. During the hight of the storm, thundersnow was observed in the Madison area... indicative of the convective nature of the snow. Visibilities were reported to be 1/4 mile lr less at times. The heavy, wet snow, combined with northeast winds gusting to 25 to 30 mph, resulted in scattered power outages across the southcentral counties as power lines broke under the weight of the snow. Dozens of vehicle accidents were attributed to the early season snowfall, with several people injured (indirectly related).

National Weather Service
Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena

October 1997

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm